



## NOTICE OF RULE MAKING – Pre-proposal #12-25

The Washington State Liquor Control Board has entered into the initial stage of rule making to revise **WAC 314-02-107** – What are the requirements for a spirits retail license?

The board received a petition for rulemaking from Chief Ed Holmes, President, of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs. Chief Holmes is requesting the board to adopt a rule requiring reporting of loss due to theft and internal shrinkage of spirits product for all spirits retail licensees in the state. Chief Holmes states in the petition for rulemaking:

*"Since the enactment of Initiative 1183, retail alcohol sales points have grown to approximately 1500 outlets. Many, if not most, of these businesses were not planned and constructed to properly secure high theft items such as spirits. As a result, we believe significant amounts of spirits are being diverted from legitimate sales and unlawfully making their way into the community. This is resulting in increased access to alcohol by youth under 21 years of age, secondary unlawful sales of spirits, loss of legitimate sales tax collection, and an increasing black market focused on theft and resale of spirits.*

*In order for public safety to properly gauge the level of such diversions, we need to have reliable data from which we can determine the level, location, and impacts of unlawful liquor sales and secondary distribution. Currently there is no requirement for such data collection, and, to knowledge, no licensed liquor sales locations are providing this essential information."*

This notice can be found at <http://www.liq.wa.gov/laws/laws-and-rules> under Proposed Rules.

The Liquor Control Board encourages you to give input on the rules. Following the comment period, the agency will send out and publish proposed rules, establish a comment period on the proposed rules, and hold at least one public hearing before rules are adopted.

## **Public Comment**

Please forward your initial comments to the Liquor Control Board by mail, e-mail, or fax by **January 27, 2013**

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